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and that the respondent has the right to answer the notice in writing. The notice shall inform the respondent of the time limits for response as well as the address to which such response should be made. If the respondent is employed in the competitive service on the date the notice is served, the respondent shall be entitled to be retained in a pay status during the notice period.

### §731.403 Answer.

A respondent may answer the charges in writing and furnish documentation and/or affidavits in support of the response.

#### § 731.404 Decision.

The decision shall be in writing, dated, and inform the respondent of the reasons for the decision. The respondent shall also be informed that an adverse decision can be appealed in accordance with subpart E of this part. The employing agency shall remove an appointee from the rolls within 5 work days of their final decision.

### Subpart E—Appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board

## § 731.501 Appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

(a) Appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board. An individual who has been found unsuitable for employment may appeal the determination to the Merit Systems Protection Board. If the Board finds that one or more charges are supported by a preponderance of the evidence, it shall affirm the determination. If the Board sustains fewer than all the charges, the Board shall remand the case to OPM or the agency to determine whether the action taken is still appropriate based on the sustained charge(s). This determination of whether the action taken is appropriate shall be final without any further appeal to the Board.

(b) Appeal procedures. The procedures for filing an appeal with the Board are found at part 1201 of this chapter.

### **Subpart F—Savings Provision**

#### §731.601 Savings provision.

No provision of the regulations in this part shall be applied in such a way as to affect any administrative proceeding pending on January 29, 2001. An administrative proceeding is deemed to be pending from the date of the agency or OPM "notice of proposed action" described in §731.402.

# PART 732—NATIONAL SECURITY POSITIONS

### Subpart A—Scope

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 3301, 3302, 7312; 50 U.S.C. 403; E.O. 10450, 3 CFR, 1949-1953 Comp., p. 936.

SOURCE: 56 FR 18654, Apr. 23, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—Scope

### § 732.101 Purpose.

This part sets forth certain requirements and procedures which each agency shall observe for determining national security positions pursuant to Executive Order 10450—Security Requirements for Government Employment (April 27, 1953), 18 FR 2489, 3 CFR 1949–1953 Comp., p. 936, as amended.